

Bhubaneswar section of National Highway No. 5 in Orissa ;

(b) if so, steps taken so far in implementing the proposal ; and

(c) details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) :

(a) to (c) Widening of Cuttack-Bhubneswar Road from the existing two lane to four lane width is envisaged in a phased manner. One Project estimate amounting to Rs. 91 lakhs for widening from O.M.P. junction to right approach of Mahanadi Bridge has already been approved technically and is being processed for necessary financial clearance.

Allotment of Bookstalls to M/s A. H. Wheeler & Co.

7498. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bookstall run by M/s. A. H. Wheeler & Co. State-wise and railway zone-wise ;

(b) the reasons for allotment of bookstalls to M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co.;

(c) the conditions on which book-stalls have been allotted and leased out to the said company ;

(d) whether these allotments or leasing out are on permanent basis or renewable ; and

(e) the total income of Railways from book-stalls allotted to Messrs A.H. Wheeler & Co. ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY) : (a) State-wise and railway zone-wise number of bookstalls hold by M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. are indicated below ;—

State-wise		Railway Zone-wise	
Bihar	48	Central	83
Andhra Pradesh	19	Eastern	41
Maharashtra	86	Northern	46
Orissa	11	North Eastern	34
West Bengal	30	Northest Frontier	30
Madhya Pradesh	34	South Central	21
Gujarat	26	South Eastern	24
Delhi	5	Western	79
Uttar Pradesh	72		
Karnataka	2		
Assam	13		
Nagaland	1		
Rajasthan	11		
Haryana	2		
	360		360

(b) The reasons for allotment of Bookstalls to M/s A. H. Wheeler & Co. are that over the last 100 years, they have grown as the principal suppliers of reading materials to the travelling public and have given them satisfactory service along with assured Royalty to the railways on their Sales turnover.

(c) and (d) Subject to satisfactory performance, the bookstall agreements with M/s A. H. Wheeler and Co. are renewed on 9 years basis.

(e) Amounts of Royalty paid by M/s A.H. Wheeler & Co. during 1982 and 1983 are given below :—

1982	Rs. 11,81,388
1983	Rs. 12,53,418 (Provisional)

Overbridges at Nagda Railway Station

7499. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Nagda Railway station has got two over bridges with three staircases on each side ;

(b) whether it is a fact that these over bridges are very narrow ;

(c) if so, whether it is a traffic hazard ;

(d) if so, reason why vehicular traffic such as cycles and motor cycles are allowed to pass through these bridges ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Each foot-over bridge has a width of 6 foot. The total width of two foot-over-bridges is 12 foot and this is adequate for the present level of traffic at this station.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Vehicular traffic is not allowed on these foot-over-bridges. Only carrying cycles without riding on is allowed as the city is located on both the sides of the railway line.

Maintenance of Tracks by Private Contractor

7500. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways are considering giving contracts for the maintenance of tracks to the private contractors ;

(b) if so, who would be held responsible for any fault after the expiry of term of contract ; and

(c) the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY) : (a) Sir, there is no such proposal at present.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

Staff for Examination of Trains at Phoolpur

7501. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no staff is available at Phoolpur for the examination of trains by the Carriage and Wagon Department under Division; and

(b) the number of trains to be examined at Phoolpur everyday ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOU-DHURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.